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January 27, 2003

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DXCC COUNTRY/ENTITY REPORT: According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of Sunday, 19/January, through Sunday, 26/January there were 234 countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3B9, 3C, 3D2, 3DA, 3V, 3W, 3X, 4J, 4L, 4S, 4U1I, 4X, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 5U, 5V, 5W, 5Z, 6Y, 7P, 7Q, 7X, 8P, 8R, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9M2, 9M6, 9N, 9V, 9Y, A2, A3, A4, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C3, C6, CE, CE0Z, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, D4, DL, DU, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, EP, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, EZ, F, FG, FJ, FK, FM, FO, FP, FR, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, H4, HA, HB, HB0, HC, HI, HK, HK0/a, HL, HP, HR, HS, HV, HZ, I, IS, J6, J7, JA, JD/m, JD/o, JT, JW, JY, K, KG4, KH0, KH6, KH8, KH9, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ7, PY, PY0F, PZ, S2, S5, S7, S9, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV/a, SV5, SV9, T30, T31, T7, T9, TA, TF, TG, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TR, TT, TU, TY, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V2, V3, V4, V5, V7, V8, VE, VK, VK0M, VK9L, VK9N, VP2E, VP2V, VP5, VP8/h, VP8/o, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XT, XU, XW, XZ, YA, YB, YI, YJ, YK, YL, YN, YO, YS, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZC4, ZD7, ZD9, ZF, ZK1/s, ZK2, ZL, ZP, ZS

* PLEASE NOTE: The report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations. As always, you never know - "Work First Worry Later" (WFWL).

2002 WRTC VIDEO RELEASED. Ari, OH5DX, informs OPDX that the official video of the Amateur Radio Olympics (WRTC 2002) is now available on DVD and VHS. Unlike previous ham radio videos, this one is produced from a 100% "pro-sports" perspective. Watching the extreme effort Finnish hams put into making WRTC 2002 as successful and professional as it was, it is only fitting that the official video reflect these achievements. In order to capture as much of the action as possible, three different camera crews were sent out to film as many teams and events as they could during the actual 24 hour competition. And supporting all this great footage are high-end 3D graphics, intra-competition scoreboards, top-ten boxes, team

profiles, and lots of other things that you might expect when watching a professional sports event on television. The entire production is even narrated by one of ESPN's top announcers. Animation, graphics and sound were all posted at some of the best studios in the Asia-Pacific region, and the DVDs were mastered in the same facilities used by Paramount and Sony Entertainment. Total running time is 60 minutes. The DVD version also contains lots of extra features like full score breakdowns for each team, continental line-ups, competitor rulebook, and even all the past WRTC scores dating back to 1990. Copies are now shipping worldwide, and all information on how to obtain one can be found at the following web site: http://home1.pacific.net.sg/~jamesb/

3B8, MAURITIUS. Herman, ON4AME, is expected to be active as **3B8/ON4AME** from Mauritius (grid square LG89) from **March 9-22nd**. Activity will be on CW/SSB and digimodes (SSTV-RTTY-PSK31-JT44... anything that is soundblaster compatible) using a TS2000X fitted with 160m-23cm. The antennas will be verticals and beams. More details will be forthcoming.

5X, UGANDA. QSL Manager Bob, WB2YQH, informs OPDX that Graham, **5X1GS**, has been semi-active this month due to work related travels away from Kampala to the north part of the country. He is now traveling to 5Z4 (no operation there) and back to 5X for a day before departing for the UK on **January 30th**. He will return to Uganda **February 15th**. He is looking into a WARC beam for a better signal. Bob also mentions that the logs are up-to-date. QSL via WB2YQH.

6W, SENEGAL. Norbert/F6AXX and Anne Marie will be vacationing here **now through February 7th**, in the **Saly** Area. The callsign to be used will be **6W7/F6AXX**. Look for Norbert every morning and evening mainly on CW around the following suggested frequencies: 14035, 18090, 21035, 24105 and 28035 kHz (+/- QRM). QSL via F6AXX, either direct (SASE) or via the French REF Bureau. Some more information about Saly and amateur radio in Senegal can be found (in French) at: http://www.pleinsud.online.fr/ra.htm

6Y, JAMAICA. John, K3TEJ, plans to be active in the **ARRL DX CW Contest** (**February 15-16th**) as **6Y0T**. During activity outside of the contest, he will operate as **6Y5/K3TEJ**. He will be active from here between **February 11-18th**. Operations will be on 160-10 meters CW ONLY. QSL both callsigns via K3TEJ.

7Q, MALAWI. QSL Manager, Allan, G0IAS, informs OPDX that Les, **7Q7LA**, has landed in Malawi, but a week late. He also states that by the time the OPDX readers read this, Harry/**7Q7HB** and Les/**7Q7LA** should be active and providing some "new ones" from the Lake shore (of Malawi) for plenty of people this time around. Allan states not to hesitate to ASK the guys if they can QSY to other modes or bands if you need them, but please not in the middle of a pile up..! QSL info is as usual via DIRECT only to G0IAS. NO BUREAU cards via RSGB (They will NEVER be answered.) Also, there is NO 7Q7 BUREAU.

8P, BARBADOS. Tom, W2SC, will be active as **8P5A** in the **ARRL International DX SSB Contest** (**March 1-2nd**) as a Single-Op/High Power entry. QSL via NT1N.

9L, SIERRA LEONE (Top Band!). Zbig, SP7BTB, has returned from a holiday in Poland and is now back and active as **9L1BTB**. He has been heard on 160 meters lately, so watch between 1828-1831 kHz after 2130z. His activity depends mainly on whether there is power (electricity) in the town. He is using a dipole 13 meters above the ground, an IC-706 and a Emtron DX-1b.

Also, look for him to be active on 6 meters with a 5 element Yagi.

DXER'S MOST WANTED COUNTRIES (ENTITIES). Over the past week, DXers (new and old) got to see where their most wanted entities are listed/ranked thanks to "The DX Magazine's" release of the results of its "2002 Most Wanted Conuntries" survey. Also released this past week were the results of the "425 DX News 2003 Most Wanted Survey". This is actually interesting because DXers from the Americas can compare what the rest of world (Asia, Africa, Europe and the Pacific) needs. The top 10 mosted wanted are:

"**The DX Magazine**"	"**425 DX News**"
1) VU4 - Andaman	1) VU4 - Andaman
2) BS7 - Scarborough	2) BS7 - Scarborough
3) VU7 - Lakshadweep	3) VU7 - Lakshadweep
4) P5 - North Korea	4) 3Y/P - Peter I Island
5) 7O - Yemen	5) FR/J - Juan de Nova & Europa
6) FR/J - Juan de Nova & Europa	6) KP5 - Desecheo Island
7) 3Y/P - Peter I Island	7) KP1 - Navassa Island
8) KP5 - Desecheo Island	8) YV0 - Aves Island
9) KP1 - Navassa Island	9) 7O - Yemen
10) YV0 - Aves Island	10) FT8X - Kerguelen Islands

As you can see, the top three entities are the same, however, the other seven are very different. OPDX would like to thank both DX publications for providing the DX Community for these results. For more details and complete results on these surveys, please visit the following Web pages at: http://www.dxpub.com/dx_news.html (The DX Magazine) and http://www.425dxn.org/surv2003/ (425 DX News)

IOTA NEWS.....

- **AF-064**. Dennis, ZS4BS, reports, "A DXpedition to **Robben Island** is on the books." Robben Island is listed amongst the top 500 most wanted IOTA groups in the latest IOTA Directory. There have been several fairly low-key operations in recent years, mainly on SSB only. The team, consisting of Phil/G3SWH, David/G3UNA, Vidi/ZS1EL, Kosie/ZS1SR, Malcolm/ZS1MC, Andrew/ZS1AN and Hester/ZS1ESU, has been allocated the special callsign **ZS1RBN**. The team plans to activate the island between **April 4-7th**, and, propagation permitting, have two stations on the air on a 24 hours a day basis. One station will operate SSB and one will operate CW on all bands 40-10 meters. QSLs will be handled by G3SWH, either direct to his CBA with SAE and return postage or via the RSGB bureau.
- **NA-072**. Wil, DJ7AA, informs OPDX that he is planning another trip to **Contadora Island**, **Panama**, and will be active **February 4-19th**. His main activities are the **WPX-RTTY Contest** and the **ARRL CW Contest**. Outside of the contests, his activity will be mostly CW on 160/80 meters. Please look for him on 1826.5 and 3560.0 kHz always listening split, so please look for his QSX frequencies. There may be some activity on the WARC bands and some SSB if someone needs it and if there is some time. The callsign is not known yet. QSLs for this activity are going via DL6MYL.
- **OC-098**. Ken Holdom, ZL4HU, is in the process of planning a small DXpedition to **Pukapuka**, **North Cook Islands**, and he would appreciate receiving any information on past activities from this island. Ken has already been provided with the following list of past operations (kindly donated by Neville G3NUG): KH6MG/ZK1, W0PBW/ZK1,

ZK1AF, ZK1DP, ZK1KH, ZK1MB, ZK1TW and ZK1XP. Apart from his own activities as ZK1KH, Ken would appreciate the names of the operators of the above activities and the dates they were operational from Pukapuka, North Cooks. If possible, he would also like to know the number of QSOs each operator made on these visits. If these operators are still active, he would also appreciate their current E-mail addresses. Also, if anyone knows of any other activity from Pukapuka, North Cooks, he would appreciate hearing from you. Ken's E-mail address is: zl2hu@clear.net.nz

LIMITED "LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD" TESTING IS A HIT, states the ARRL Letter (Vol. 22, No. 04) dated January 24, 2003. An excerpt from the "ARRL Letter" states: "The long-anticipated "Logbook of the World" (LoTW)--the ARRL's secure electronic contact-confirmation system--took a major leap toward public release this month with several weeks of limited-- or "alpha" -- testing. Dozens of Amateur Radio operators checked out a preliminary version of the LoTW software, which is still under development. Once it's ready, LoTW will provide a means for participants to qualify for awards such as DXCC or WAS without having to first collect hard-copy QSL cards. ..... LoTW beta testing for the general Amateur Radio public is expected to begin soon. The ARRL has not announced a specific inauguration date for Logbook of the World. To read the complete press release, go to the ARRL Web page at: http://www.arrl.org

KH0, MARIANA ISLANDS. Looks like this one will be active over the next few months by a few JA operators:

- Look for JN1MYM and JO1UTG to operate from **Saipan** as **KH0/JN1MYM** and **KH2DI/KH0**, respectively, between **January 31st and February 3r**d. Activity will be on HF and 6 meters. QSL via their home callsigns.
- Takeshi, JA5AUC, will operate from **Saipan** as **KH0/JA5AUC** from **February 7-12th**. Activity will be on HF and 6 meters. QSL via his home callsign.
- JR1KGF will be active as **KH0/JR1KGF** from **Saipan** between **March 11-13th**. His activity will be on HF and 6 meters. QSL via his home callsign.
- Ikuko, JA5GSG, will operate from **Saipan** between **June 5-11th**. His callsign was not provided. Activity will be on HF and 6 meters. QSL via his home callsign.

NEW OFFICERS FOR 2003. The Texas DX Society (TDXS) is pleased to announce its officers for 2003:

President	Madison Jones - W5MJ	Secretary	Ed Gerber - W5GCX
Vice President	Charles Frost - K5LBU	Treasurer	Dave Topp - W5BXX

P4, ARUBA. Bob, W6FRH, is once again active as **P40RH** through **January 29th**. Activity will be on 160-6 meters, SSB and some CW. Over the past weekend Bob has been heard on 80/40/20/15 meters as well as plenty of 10 meter activity. QSL via W6FRH.

PIRATE ALERT. Bill, K9RZ, reports that Roger, WA0ETE, QSL Manager for V31KQ, informs him that the callsign **V31KQ** is not presently active and **recent operations** on 15m CW are the work of a **PIRATE**. The only valid dates for operation from V31KQ in 2002 were from April 24th through May 2nd. At present, there are no firm plans to return to V31 in 2003, but that is subject to change. He will inform Bill if that happens.

PJ5, ST. EUSTATIUS. Jim, K1NA, will be active as **PJ5/K1NA** (or possibly **PJ5NA**) in the **ARRL International DX SSB Contest** (**March 1-2nd**) as a Single-Op/All Band entry (This will be a casual effort). QSL via his home callsign.

PY0F, FERNANDO DE NORONHA. Bill, W9VA, will be active as **PY0ZFO** from **February 12-18th**. His activity will include the **ARRL CW DX Contest** using a special callsign. Contest category and callsign will be announced later. QSL via W9VA.

QSL INFO AND NEWS.....

- **CO6XN QSL CHANGES**. After much discussion with Abel, CO6XN, his QSL Manager Oscar/HK6DOS and Frank/N3ZOM have come to this conclusion. Because it is no longer cost effective for him, given the current unstable mail situation and increase in cost of the bureau service in Colombia, it is with much regret that Oscar will cease to handle Abel's cards effective June 1, 2003, via the bureau. The last date to accept via the bureau will be January 31, 2003. Frank will continue to handle all of Abel's cards for all past contacts DIRECT ONLY with sufficient post included with the contact request. Please be patient if sending a card since all contacts have to be confirmed over the air with Abel.
- Pavel, **OD5/OK1MU**, was active in the CQWW 160 CW Contest (this past weekend) as a Single-Op/Hign Power entry from the Czech Embassy. QSL via OKDX Foundation or OK1TN. Visit his Web page at: http://www.qsl.net/ok1mu/
- Kurt, OE 1002419, has announced that he just uploaded the newest version of the OE callsign directory as zipped PDF file to his homepage at: http://www.swl.net/oe1002419/ After entering the page, you can find the file under "Downloads -> OE-Callbook". The file size is about 580 kB (zipped). The PDF file contains all OE callsigns with their names and addresses (SW and VHF/UHF hams = class 1 and class 2 hams) that were licenced at the 3rd of January 2003.
- Ted, W8TTS, has informed OPDX that he has taken over the QSL Manager tasks for **PJ2/N8LGP** for his operation during **February 2002**.
- Pascal, F5PTM (aka **TT8ZZ**), informs OPDX that he has begun (last week) to send out QSL cards for his activities in Chad this past autumn. Direct QSL cards that were received will be sent first. The remainder of the callsigns in the log will automatically receive a QSL via the bureau (about 14,000 QSL). For more info, a log search and pictures, please visit the Web page at: http://f6kim.free.fr/trafic/tt8zz/
- POSTAGE IS UP. Pedro, HK3JJH, informs OPDX that the actual cost of regular mail in Colombia is 1.65 USD and IRC are not accepted at the post office where he lives (so he can not use them). He states that he will continue sending his QSLs via Bureau or direct from an American post office when he visits the USA, or send it to some friends there. Currently, Pedro states he is up-to-date on his outgoing QSLs, but he will need to make the above mentioned changes.
- QSL/MGR SEARCH ENGINE AVAILABLE. Boye, OZ7C, reports that his QSL and Manager search machine is back after one year out of sevice. The URL address is: http://www.qsl.dk/oz7c/. The QSL database contains 336368 records and the MGR database contains 17570 records, based on managers that have more than 3 callsigns to their service. There will be weekly updates, normaly on Monday.
- **V51AS QSLs**. Steve, WB6RSE, recently received a direct reply from Frank, V51AS, and enclosed was an article from a local paper showing a picture of pilfered mail discarded in

the Windhoek riverbed. "Some of the mail found was posted at least three months ago, and includes both domestic and international mail. Investigators said the culprits mainly targeted international mail as Namibians living abroad sometimes posted cash to friends and family." Frank's hand written note included: "Nobody has an answer. I hope it's over. Please let others know about the problem." Frank chooses to QSL himself, which is his prerogative, even though a stateside or European manager would solve the problem. Bottom line: Frank does QSL. Steve received his in a matter of weeks. If it's been longer than that, you might consider trying again.

- **YI1BGD QSL CONFUSION**. This one has had many scratching their heads this past week. What we can gather so far is to "LISTEN" to the operator's instructions. From what we can tell, activity by:
    - Operator Mike, OM2DX, who has finished his operation as YI9OM on December 12, 2002, and is active (temporary) from the club station YI1BGD, should be QSLed via his father Steve, OM3JW. Steve informs OPDX that the YI1BGD QSLs are at the printer's, and he will send them out as soon as possible. By the way, Mike, OM2DX, is still waiting for his own personal callsign YI9DX. Also, for more info about the YI9OM and YI1BGD activity by Mike, OM2DX, and the logs, visit the Web page at: http://www.qsl.net/om2dx
    - Cliff, G0MMI, is the QSL Manager only for contacts made with YI1BGD operated by Rodger, G0TLC. These DO NOT include CW contacts, as Rodger does not work CW.
    - Any other operator at YI1BGD (other than Mike or Rodger as operators) should be QSLed via YI1DZ: P.O. Box 7361, Baghdad 12216, IRAQ.
- Stan, OK1JR/**YB0AJR**, was active this past weekend during CQWW DX 160m CW Contest using the callsign YE0X from Jawa Island, Indonesia. QSL via OK1JR to the YB bureau. A special QSL card will made for CQ 160m Contest only.

T31, CANTON ISLAND. Paul, A35RK, informed OPDX that Mike Young, KM9D, got his new callsign, **T31MY**, on **January 24th**. Over the past weekend, Mike has been heard on 17 meters CW (check 18094 kHz after 1700), 10 meters CW/SSB (check 28005 and 28450 kHz after 2000z) and on 12 meters CW (check 24916 kHz after 2300z). Activity was also reported on 40/30/20 meters. Mike's length of stay may be three to four weeks. QSL via OM2SA.

V2, ANTIGUA. Doug, W3CF/V26DX, and a group of Team Antigua operators will activate **V26DX** as a Multi-Two entry for the **2003 ARRL International DX SSB Contest** (**March 1-2nd**) from the Royal Antiguan Hotel. The other operators include Jay/WX0B, Jim/N2EA, Irwin/KD3TB and Sharon/N5CK. Doug states, "This is a shake down of the new hotel station. This is more vacation for some fun and sun in the sand than DXpedition. But will be on the air a lot." They will be running a 100 watts into a tribander and wires from the 8th story roof. They expect to have something on the air by Wednesday, February 26th during the evening. Activity on 6 meters will be possible but only with a wire antenna. QSL V26DX via KU9C. QSL the other operators as directed. Doug states he will also load the log into the eQSL database upon his return.

V2, ANTIGUA. Members of the Florida DXPedition Group, Bill/W4WX (**V25WX**) and Larry/W1LR (**V2/W1LR** - applied for **V26LR**) are planning a trip to Antigua, **February 17-25th**. They will be traveling "Space A" via military aircraft out of Patrick AFB, Cocoa, FL. They will be taking one small Mini-beam for 10/15/20 meters, Force 12 Sigma 5 Vertical for

10/12/15/17/20 meters, and a dipole for 6 meters. They will be on SSB, MMTTY, PSK-31 (no brags please) and Flashing Light on request for small ships. The pilot station will be Clarence, W9AAZ (kx8nlaf@bellsouth.net). QSL via home calls.

V31, BELIZE. Paul/K1XM and Charlotte/KQ1F plan to be active from here in a "light" Multi-Single effort in the **ARRL DX SSB Contest** (**March 1-2nd**). The callsigns, bands/modes and length of stay was not provided.

VK9, CHRISTMAS ISLAND. Steve, VK3OT (ex-VE3SIX), informs OPDX that he will be active as **VK9XI** from **April 7-21st**. The VK9XI licence will be granted on February 10th, and it will be the first time that this callsign has been used on **6 meters** since February 28, 1980. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using an Icom 706, Kenwood TS690SAT and Yaesu FT650. The antennas will be a 5 element M2 for 6m, Mosley Tri-bander for HF, Hidaka Vertical for 80/40/30 meters and a Sloper for 160 meters. Look for him mainly on 50.115 MHz between 1000-1500z and at 2400z. Steve will listen to 28.885 MHZ during all daylight hours (if propagation exisits or 21.205 MHz). He will also be active on the Lower Bands; 2300z (sunrise) and 1000z (sunset). Pilot stations announced so far are VK2QF and VK3AKK. QSL via VK3OT (Direct ONLY) to: Steve Gregory, Post Office Box 622 Hamilton, Victoria 3300, AUSTRALIA. For more up-to-date details and information, please visit the Web site at: http://members.datafast.net.au/electronics/vk9x.htm

VP8, FALKLAND ISLANDS. Mark, **VP8CSA**, will once again be active from here between **now and February 11th**. QSL via DL1SDN.

XY, MYANMAR (Late Update). Hiroo, JA2EZD, continues to be active as **XY2A** until **January 29th**. Activity has been on CW mostly with some SSB. Operations have been on 40/20/15 meters. He was expected to be joined by Kai/JH6VZS and Shirow/JF6DEA/KE1EO over the past weekend for a short operation (January 25-27th). The two operators were hoping to use the callsigns **XY5D** and **XY6J**. They plan to operate mainly on the low bands and 6m. As this was being written no QSNs (of XY5D and XY6J) were reported. There is further infomation at Shirow's Web site, "JA 6m Companion", at: http://www.ham-net.net/vu-dx/ If callsigns XY5D and XY6J were permitted, both QSLs will be handled by JH6QIL: Shin-Ichi KUSUMOTO, 1777-289, Nishi-Mochida, Aira-cho, Aira-Gun, KAGOSHIMA, 899-5431 JAPAN (Direct only with SASE).


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by sending mail to me via " kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org ", please send mail to
me via " kb8nw@arrl.net "..... TNX de Tedd KB8NW
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ALSO VISIT THE NORTHERN OHIO DX ASSOCIATION'S WEB HOME PAGE:
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online at 440-237-8208 28.8k/14400/9600/2400/1200 and leave a message with the Sysop or send via InterNet Mail to: kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org

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